

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 10A, 10B, 18A, 18B, 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B and 23 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 10A, 10B, 18A, 18B, 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B and 23.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are amended. Claims 3, 7 and 8 are canceled. In addition, the specification and Figs. 10A, 10B, 18A, 18B, 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B and 23 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing claim amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant thanks Examiner Lee for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative, Mr. Luo, during the June 13, 2005 personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The specification is amended, as the Examiner suggested and requested. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the drawings. Figs. 10A, 10B, 18A, 18B, 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B and 23 are amended, as the Examiner suggested. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are amended, as the Examiner suggested and requested. For example, claim 1 is amended to change the phrase "from the stacking direction side" to "from an upper side or a lower side of the stacking direction side" for better clarity.

Regarding claims 4 and 5, the "magnetic field" recited in these two claims is associated with the phrase "from an end portion of the first waveguide." Thus, this limitation should not cause any confusion with the "magnetic fields of the first and second waveguides" recited in claim 1.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,002,305 to Sanford et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,982,256 to Uchimura et al.; and rejects claims 1, 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sanford in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,380,825 to Takenoshita et al. These rejections are moot with respect to the canceled claims 3, 7 and 8, and are respectfully traversed with respect to claims 1, 2 and 4-6.

The Office Action acknowledges that Sanford does not disclose or suggest a waveguide having stacking layers that are grounding electrodes, but asserts that Uchimura and Takenoshita disclose this feature.

However, Sanford, Uchimura and Takenoshita do not disclose or suggest a first waveguide that extends in a stacking direction of ground electrodes, an end of the first waveguide being directly conductively connected to one of the ground electrodes ... around a connecting window from an upper side or a lower side of the stacking direction side, as recited in claim 1.

Sanford discloses a transition 38 between a transmission line 16 and a waveguide 28. See Fig. 3, and col. 2, line 64 - col. 3, line 1. An end of the transmission line is inserted inside of the waveguide 28 through a slot 34. See Fig. 3. Thus, the end of the transmission line 16 is within the space of waveguide 28 and is not directly conductively connected to an electrode of the waveguide 28. In addition, the transmission line 16 is not connected to the waveguide 28 around the slot 34. Thus, Sanford does disclose or suggest a first waveguide that extends in a stacking direction of ground electrodes, an end of the first waveguide being directly conductively connected to one of the ground electrodes ... around a connecting window, as recited in claim 1.

Uchimura discloses a coupling structure including a slot hole 90 and a linear conductor passage (microstrip line) 92. See Fig. 12, and col. 12, lines 32-44. However, the microstrip line 92 does not extend in a stacking direction of the layers of transmission line 5.

See Fig. 12. In addition, an end of the microstrip line 92 is an open end that does not end at the conductive layer 2. See Fig. 12. Therefore, Uchimura does not disclose or suggest the first guideline that extends in a stacking direction of ground electrodes, an end of the first waveguide being directly conductively connected to one of the ground electrodes ... around a connecting window from an upper side or a lower side of the stacking direction side, as recited in claim 1. Uchimura does not supply the subject matter lacking in Sanford.

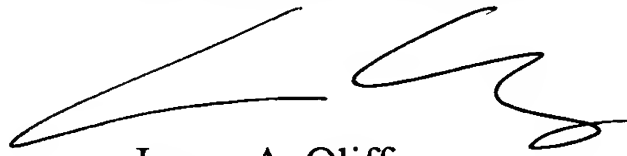
Takenoshita discloses a waveguide having ground electrodes. See Figs. 1A and 1B, and col. 11, line 54 - col. 12, line 43. Takenoshita does not disclose or suggest a coupling structure at all, much less a first waveguide connected to a ground electrode of a second waveguide. Therefore, Takenoshita does not disclose or suggest a first waveguide that extends in a stacking direction of ground electrodes, an end of the first waveguide being directly connectively connected to one of the ground electrodes ... around a connecting window from an upper side or a lower side of the stacking direction side, as recited in claim 1. Hence, Takenoshita does not supply the subject matter lacking in Sanford.

For at least the above reasons, Sanford, Uchimura and Takenoshita do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1, and claims 2 and 4-6 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GXL/rle

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Substitute specification
Marked-up copy of substitute specification
Replacement Sheets

Date: July 11, 2005

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